CONFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT

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BRAZIL, BURMA, ETHIOPIA, INDIA, MEXICO, MOROCCO, NIGERIA, PAKISTAN, SWEDEN, THE UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC AND YUGOSLAVIA

Working paper containing suggestions on desirable changes to the revised draft convention (CCD/337*) and the draft convention (CCD/333*) on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and on their destruction

Pursuant to the Resolution 2603 A (XXIV) of the General Assembly of the United Nations regarding the use of chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons, as well as the Joint Memorandum (CCD/310) of the Group of Twelve members of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament concerning the basic approach in regard to the treatment of the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons, which was commended by the General Assembly of the United Nations in its Resolution 2662 (XXV), and in view of the present state of negotiations in the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, whereby the prohibition of only bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and their destruction seems to be now possible, the eleven countries submit the following suggestions for consideration and acceptance by the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament. However they take no stand at the present stage of negotiations on the need and desirability for any further suggestions that might be submitted by its members, individually or jointly.

A. - Preamble

1. In paragraph one:
   (i) add the words "chemical and" before the word "bacteriological".
   (ii) delete the words "and toxins intended for use as weapons".
2. In paragraph two:
   (i) add the words "chemical and" before the word "bacteriological".
   (ii) delete the words "and toxins".
3. In paragraph three:
   (i) add the words "chemical and" before the word "bacteriological".
   (ii) delete the words "immense", "urgent" and "and toxins".
4. In paragraph five:
   (i) add the words "chemistry and" before the word "bacteriology".

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5. Redraft paragraph six so that it reads as follows:

"Recognizing that the application of scientific knowledge in the field of chemistry and bacteriology (biology) for weapons purposes would increase the risk of the use of chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons".

6. Move the paragraphs 8, 9 and 10 at the beginning of the preamble, so that they become paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 respectively.

7. Redraft paragraph eleven so that it reads as follows

"Recognizing that an agreement on the elimination of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons represents a first possible step towards the achievement of agreement on effective measures for complete prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons, and determined to continue negotiations to that end".

8. Insert a new paragraph twelve which would read as follows:

"Affirming the principle that a substantial portion of the savings derived from measures in the field of disarmament should be devoted to promoting economic and social development, particularly in the developing countries".

B. - Operative part

9. At the end of Article V add the following paragraph:

Consultation and co-operation pursuant to this Article may also be undertaken through appropriate international procedures within the framework of the United Nations and in accordance with its Charter.

10. Redraft Article VIII so that it reads as follows:

"Each State Party to this Convention accepts the principle of complete prohibition of chemical weapons and undertakes to continue negotiations in good faith with a view to reaching early agreement on prohibition of their development, production and stockpiling and on their destruction, and on appropriate measures concerning equipment and means of delivery specifically designed for the production or use of chemical agents for weapons purposes".

11. At the end of Para. 1 of Article IX add following sentence:

"Parties to the Convention shall also co-operate in contributing individually or together with other States or international organizations to the further development and application of scientific discoveries in the field of bacteriology (biology) for prevention of disease, or for other peaceful purposes.